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PARLIAMENTARIAN

Ways and Means Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 20, 2020

**House Bill 790 Income Tax - Green Buildings Tax Credit - Multifamily Housing**

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to present **House Bill 790 Income Tax - Green Buildings Tax Credit - Multifamily Housing**, which creates an income tax credit for up to 25% of the cost to construct or convert a building into a green building.

Climate change is the defining crisis of our time. Carbon pollution from burning fossil fuels are warming our planet, and these rising temperatures are fueling environmental degradation, natural disasters, weather extremes, food and water insecurity, economic disruption, conflict, and terrorism. Our most powerful action in this global threat is to reduce carbon pollution and implement conservation efforts.

HB 790 incentivizes reduction in both carbon and water usage by creating a tax credit for an existing multi-family building of 10 units or more that undergoes improvements for energy and water conservation, and that reduces projected annual energy and water usage by at least 30%. Compared to the national average, green buildings use 25% less energy and 36% less carbon emissions. This legislation takes an equity approach, prioritizing tax credits for affordable housing buildings, buildings located in opportunity zones, and those in distressed areas.

It's critical that Maryland continue to lead in the fight against climate change, and HB 790 would have a major impact by helping property owners save on energy costs while reducing carbon pollution. For these reasons, I urge a **favorable** report for **House Bill 790**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jheanelle Wilkins".

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins